29th September 1956]

Beedi Industrial Co-operative at Payyanur, North Malabar

* 283 Q.—Sri K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Director of Industries and Commerce, Madras, has received a memorandum signed by 75 workers on 29th July 1956, requesting the Government to take steps to start a Beedi Industrial Co-operative at Payyanur, North Malabar; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) Necessary action is being taken by the Director of Industries and Commerce to organize a society.

Sri K. P. GOPALAN : Sir, are the Government aware that the workers have collected the share amounts and that the money was deposited into the bank. In view of the impending reorganization of the States, will the Hon. Minister be pleased to ask the department to expedite the matter and see that registration is given to the Beedi Co-operative Society at Payyanur as early as possible so that it may be an experiment in the co-operative field?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, that is being looked into.

Milaganoor tank and supply channel

* 284 Q.—Sri P. S. KRISHNASWAMY AYYANGAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state with reference to the answer given to a supplementary on question No. 802 on 21st February 1955—

(*a*) what further work has been executed to the Milaganoor tank and supply channel in Sivaganga taluk, Ramanathapuram district, under the provisions of the Madras Irrigation Works (Repairs, Improvement and Construction) Act (Act XVIII of 1943) and at what cost; and

(*b*) if no work has been executed, so far, the reasons therefor?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) & (*b*) The Milaganoor tank sustained damages during the cyclone in December 1955 and the work of breach closing was completed. As regards the general repairs, an estimate for Rs. 51,500 has been sanctioned by the Superintending Engineer, Special Division, Madurai. The Executive Engineer, Public Works Department (Special Division), Sivaganga, has been directed to complete the work of repairs to the tank before the commencement of the irrigation season in October 1956. The Collector of Ramanathapuram has accorded his concurrence to take up the execution of repairs to the tank, and he is taking action to issue notices to all the landholders of Milaganoor village who are responsible for the upkeep of the irrigation tank. The question of executing repairs to the supply channel is under examination.

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SRI P. S. KRISHNASWAMY AYYANGAR : Sir, was there an estimate prepared for Rs. one lakh odd and if so, is that estimate available?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Yes, Sir, an estimate was prepared for Rs. one lakh and odd, but the revised estimate is for the amount I have given.

SRI G. GOVINDAN : ராமனாதபுரம் ஜில்லாவிலுள்ள இனாம், சத்திரம், தேவஸ்தானம் இவைகளுக்குச் சொந்தமான நிலங்களிலுள்ள கண்மாய்கள் வெட்டப்படாமல் இருப்பதால், விவசாயிகள் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். சர்க்கார் இவைகளை எடுத்து வெட்டி, பிறகு நிலச்சுவான்தார்களிடமிருந்து ரூபாயை வசூல் செய்ய ஏற்பாடு செய்வார்களா ?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : இப்பொழுது புயலால் பாதிக்கப்பட்ட பிரதேசங்களில் மராமத்துக்காக சுமார் இரண்டு கோடி ரூபாய் கொடுக்கப்பட்டு வேலை நடந்துகொண்டுவருகிறது. முதலிலே இந்த வேலை முடியட்டும், பிற்பாடு கனம் அங்கத்தினர் சொல்லியதையும் கவனிக்கலாம்.

SRI P. S. KRISHNASWAMY AYYANGAR : Sir, may I know whether the original estimate prepared for Rs. one lakh odd is found in the records and if it is missing, will the Government direct an enquiry into the matter and punish the culprits found to be guilty of clandestine removal of it from the file?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Sir, the original estimate for Rs. one lakh odd provided for improvements to the tank, its supply channel, construction of head sluice outlet, syphon acqueducts to each of the four sluices of Kattikulam and reconstruction of Tuthikulam under-tunnel, whereas the revised estimate provided for general repairs to the tank only. The Superintending Engineer has requested the Executive Engineer to complete this work expeditiously before the rains set in.

SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM : Sir, the question put by the hon. Member Sri P. S. Krishnaswami Ayyangar is whether a particular estimate prepared by the Government is among the records or not. The inference arising out of the question seems to be that it may be missing. May I know whether the original estimate is available or not?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Sir, whether it is missing or not, the information is available. I have already stated that the original estimate was for rupees one lakh and odd, but we now want to have the work done expeditiously. The original estimate provided for so many aspects of the work like improvements to the tank, its supply channel, etc. which I have already narrated.

Artificial rain

* 284-A Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state with reference to the answer given to clause (b) of the starred question No. 2645 on 30th September 1955, the details of the Report of the Committee constituted for reviewing the experiments for producing artificial rain?